

Message Text

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53-S

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 NSCE-00 SAM-01 SNM-02 SP-03

H-03 IO-14 L-03 AID-05 OMB-01 INR-11 CIAE-00 DEAE-00

DRC-01 RSC-01 /098 W

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R 031407Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6355

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

AMCONSUL ADANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 7877

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: SNAR, TU

SUBJECT: OPIUM DEVELOPMENTS

REF: ANKARA 7813

1. ACCORDING TO OCTOBER 3 EDITIONS OF MASS-CIRCULATION DAILIES HURRIYET AND GUNAYDIN, POPPY PLANTATION HAS STARTED IN SIX PROVINCES (AFYON, BURDUR, ISPARTA, DENIZLI AND KONYA) UNDER STRICT CONTROL MEASURES, PROVIDING INTER ALIA FOR AERIAL AND GROUND SURVEILLANCE, DESTRUCTION OF UNLICENSED FIELDS, AND A PROHIBITION AGAINST SLITTING THE POPPY HEADS BY THE FARMERS.

2. LEFT-OF-CENTER YENI ORTAM (OCT 3) REPORTS THAT THE ISTANBUL AND IZMIR CHAMBERS OF AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS ISSUED A JOINT STATEMENT CRITICIZING THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT'S DECISION (ANNOUNCED BY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE KORKUT OZAL) TO PROHIBIT THE LANCING OF THE POPPY CAPSULES. THE STATEMENT SAID THIS WOULD DEPRIVE THE POPPY FARMER OF HALF HIS INCOME SINCE HE WOULD NOT HAVE THE SEEDS WHEN HE SELLS THE CAPSULES UNSLITTED. THE STATEMENT CONTINUED: "THIS IS
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THE LAST LINK IN THE BLOWS DELIVERED TO OUR NATIONAL DIGNITY BY THE IMPERIALISTIC MENTALITY RUN FROM OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY."

3. COMMENT: AS REPORTED ANKARA 7813, HOWEVER, GOT STUDIES SO FAR INDICATE THERE WILL BE NO ADVERSE ECONOMIC EFFECT ON FARMERS FROM CHANGE TO STRAW PROCESSING.

4. IN CONVERSATION AT SOCIAL FUNCTION EVENING OCTOBER 2, MFA ACTING DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS (ULGEN) TOLD EMBOFF THAT GOT INTENDED TO HANDLE BY DECREE REPEAT DECREE THE PROBLEM IN TURKISH LAW REGARDING ADOPTION OF POPPY STRAW PROCESS (SEE ANKARA 7813).
MACOMBER

NOTE BY OCT: DISTRIBUTION PER MR. SERROS, S/S-O.

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Message Attributes

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